



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the
Interior

Death Valley National
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Death Valley National Park

News Release

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Death Valley National Park Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Sunday, October 31, 2004, the National Park Service staff at Death Valley National Park will be celebrating its 10th anniversary and the passage of the California Desert Protection Act. "Several special events are planned for October 31st and November 9th", states park Superintendent J.T. Reynolds.

Sunday, October 31st planned events include:

- ❖ 9:00-10:30 a.m. – Car Caravan Tour of flood damaged Highway 190.
 - This trip will be limited to 15 vehicles.
 - Sign up at the Furnace Creek Visitor Center is **REQUIRED** beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the 31st.
 - Car pooling will be encouraged.
- ❖ 11:00 a.m. – Ranger led tour of Historic Furnace Creek Inn – meet at the Inn.
- ❖ 1:00 p.m. - Meet with park Superintendent JT Reynolds at the Furnace Creek Visitor Center – The past 10 years and beyond to be discussed.
- ❖ 2:00-3:30 p.m. – Car Caravan Tour of flood damaged Highway 190.
 - Same criteria as the 9:00 a.m. tour.
- ❖ 2:15 p.m. – Living History talk at Furnace Creek Visitor Center – meet a Death Valley National Monument Biologist from 1939!
- ❖ 7:00 p.m. – Evening Slide Program at Furnace Creek Visitor Center – The significance of the California Desert Protection Act and the future of national parks.

Tuesday, November 9th planned events include:

- ❖ 10:30-11:15 a.m. – Dedication of Badwater Boardwalk – A new parking area and boardwalk was built to protect the Badwater salt pan and pools.
- ❖ 1:30-3:30 p.m. – Cow Creek Historic District Open House.
 - The original Death Valley National Monument Headquarters is located 3 miles north of Furnace Creek. It was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the early 1930s. Take a self-guided tour of the historic district. Park staff will be on hand to answer questions and tell you about the historic district. Both historic structures from the '30s as well as newer facilities built to blend in with the historic scene will be available for you

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to see. Pick up a flyer at the Furnace Creek Visitor Center for a map and directions.

In addition to all the activities going on at Furnace Creek, we would like to remind visitors that tours of the Historic Scotty's Castle will also be available. This 1920s mansion built by millionaires Albert and Bessie Johnson with their good friend Walter Scott (better known as Scotty) is open daily with tours starting at 9:00 a.m.; with the last tour at 5:00 p.m.

The significance of the 1994 legislation that re-designated Death Valley National Monument to national park status can not be overstated. It set in motion an appreciation and awareness of the value of deserts nationally and internationally. "Come help us celebrate this special occasion and explore the wonders of Death Valley," beckons Superintendent Reynolds.

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